

PINK BOLLWORM PROGRAM – WEEKLY REPORT

42 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COTTON GROWERS



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Week Ending May 30, 2009

Pink Bollworm Activities

Southern California:

Cumulative native pink bollworm (PBW) moths have been captured in the Blythe/Palo Verde Valley area of Riverside County at a much lower level in 2009 than in 2008. The total to date this week was 85 compared to 816 last year, a 90% drop. Imperial Valley and Bard/Winterhaven have trapped a total of 15 natives to date compared to 90 by the same time in 2008, an 83% drop.

The first cotton bloom in the Blythe/Palo Verde Valley area was spotted this week. The sterile PBW moth releases were scheduled to start at first bloom, and as a result, will begin early next week.



Native PBW Moth in Trap

San Joaquin Valley:

Cotton mapping is nearly completed in all San Joaquin Valley Counties. Mapping crews will be taking part in placing PBW pheromone ropes in three cotton fields in Merced County near Dos Palos next week. This is necessary due to the high number of natives caught in 2008 (151) and the unprecedented early capture of three natives to date this year. A third native was caught this week in the same field.

There was a total of 9,033,464 sterile moths released this week. This brings the seasons total released to 34,230,537. The 46 early detection traps in place have detected 3,550 sterile Pink Bollworm moths and three native PBW moths.

Sacramento Valley:

The latest heat unit projections indicate mapping and trapping will begin in late August.